

10-27-1944

1944-10-27, Franz to Family

Franz DeVault

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Germany,

27. Oct. 1944

Dear Falks.

Hills again - Just a few lines. Am O.K.
Good appetite etc. Sleep 8-9 hours
every night less time out for Artillery
Barrages & stuff. George Cupeland &
I share the same Fox Hole. Have a
layer of inch boards - a foot of dirt - plus
a foot layer of pine boughs. 3 1/2 feet
wide - 3 feet deep 7 feet long. Good
protection & we are as happy as 2
kids in a rug. Has quite a guy (George)
I'd rather hear him tell a story than
see a show. Grand fellow & a good
Buddy.

We are in a large forest. Big trees all
have been felled - row after row

very thick. At 7 P.M. you can't see
out of the Fox hole. Pitch black
here. Always cloudy no moon. Very
wet & quite chilly - We have 5 ft
blankets under us & 3 over plus
a shelter half under us & one over.

The ground is still pretty hard by
morning. "Oh my aching back!"
I called you some money for your
Xmas. Now I'm afraid it won't
get there in time. Cable is so
slow. At the time I sent it no

Money orders were available - But you will
get it eventually but in of rail
max for Xmas.

Nice letter from Lorna. Guess she
will tell my vote - she votes
Rep. - I'd love to change that or maybe
some one else. Did Archie & Maud vote
Dem? He Hs. Theatricals do happen -
The news from the Pacific is sure good
be tho' over there before we are here
I guess. Lots of guys think we will go
over there & after we are done here.
I see I'll have a double row of battle
ribbons by then. Just so I don't get
any Purple Heart.

Don't be too surprised if the letters are
slow & far between from Now on, things
are changing. But don't worry
Please - I've come a long way from
the French Beach & I'm still OK. I
see I'm gonna make out OK.
Take care of your self. It's the
same - Be seeing you.

God bless & keep you
your son
Randy,

[[DeVault Correspondence #1]]

[[Page 1- Letter]]

Germany 27 Oct. 1944

Dear Folks,

Hello again – Just a few lines. Am O.K.
good [[app-t-ale]] eat. Sleep 8-9 hours
every night less time out for Artillery
Barrage + stuff. George Copeland +
I share the same fox hole. have a
layer 9 inch boards – a foot of dirt – plus
a foot layer of pine bows. 3 ½ feet
wide – 3 feet deep 7 feet long. good
protection + we are as happy as 2
bugs in a rug. He's quite a guy (George)
I'd rather hear him tell a story than
see a show. grand fellow + a good
Buddy.

We are in a large forest. Big pines all
have been planted – row after row
very thick. At 7 P.M. you cant be
out [[one word]] fox hole. Pitch black
here. Always cloudy no moon. Very
wet + quite chilly – We have 5 9I
Blair Keys under us + 3 over plus
a shelter half under us + one over.

The ground is still plenty hard by
morning – “oh my aching back—
“I cabled you some money for your
Xmas. Now Im afraid it wont
get there in time. Cable is so
slow. At the time I sent it no

[[Page 2- Letter]]

money orders were available – [[one word]] you will
get it eventually but Im afraid
not for X mas.
Nice letter from Lorna. Guess she
will fill my vote – she votes
Rep – see love + change that or marry
some one else. Did Archie + Maud vote
[[one word]]? Ha Ha. Mericals do happen –
The news from the Pacific is sure good
be this over there before we are here
I guess. Lots of guys think we will go
over there after we are done here.
Gee Ill have a double row of battle
ribbons by then. Just so I don't get
any Purple Hearts. –
Don't be too surprised if the letters are
slow + for between from now on, things
are changing. But don't worry
Please – Ive come a long way from
the French Beach + [[one word]] still O.K. [[one word]]
sure Im gonna make out O.K.

Take care of yourselves I'll do
the same – Be seeing you –

God bless + Keep you
Your son

Franz